

Liberty Call



Beachgoers enjoy activities in the sand and surf at Barbers Point’s beaches. White Plains and Nimitz beaches, with two and a half miles of beaches, shoreline reefs, surfing sites and ironwood forests, are maintained by the Navy. Other facilities still available at Barbers Point also include a golf course, horse stables, the Kona Breeze swimming pool and the Power Point Fitness Center.



Genesis Willis and her son, Dean Anthony, make sand castles on the beach at Barbers Point. The Willis family stays at one of the beach cottages as they spend some time relaxing and enjoying the waves and body surfing.



Above: The beach cottages at Barbers Point feature fully-equipped kitchens and a dining area, living area and sleeping areas.



A sign points the way to the Surfer Cafe at White Plains Beach. The cafe offers sandwiches, pupus and other refreshments for hungry beach goers. Karaoke is featured on Friday nights.

*Photos and story
by
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Barbers Point recreational activities remain open to military families Barbers

Barbers Point Naval Air Station may have closed down, but the area still has plenty of activities available for military personnel.

After its closure in July 1999, The Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation took over most of Barbers Point shoreline, including 44 acres of beach and parkland, and 71 acres of nearby campgrounds and comfort stations.

Although part of the coastline (White Plains and Nimitz beaches with two-and-a-half miles of beaches, shoreline reefs, surfing sites and ironwood forests) is kept and maintained by the Navy, it is also accessible to the public.

“My family and I just moved out here from California. We have military family on the island who told us about Barbers Point,” said Genesis Willis of Ewa Beach.

“We really like it out here. The area has great waves for the kids to come out and body surf,” she explained.

Beach cottages are available for all active duty military, retired military and Department of Defense civilians. Located on Nimitz Beach for enlisted personnel and White Plains Beach

for officers, prices start at \$40 for E-1 to E-5, \$45 for E-6 to O-2 and \$60 for O-3 and above.

Cottages can be applied for up to six months in advance and booked up to three months in advance. There are both basic and upgraded cabins available.

Basic cottages are duplexes that have basic general use amenities, whereas the upgraded cottages have all the comforts of home including air conditioning, television, dishwasher, and a washer and dryer. Cottages adapted for handicapped are also available.

Cottage rentals are available by calling the Good to Go mini mart facility, which is located inside the Power Point fitness center on Franklin Street, phone 682-2019.

The Good to Go also offers inter-island packages, reservations for the picnic pavilions and tickets for island attractions.

Outdoor camping is open to the public and can be reserved by calling Satellite City Hall Waipahu branch at 671-5638.

The newly-renovated Surfer Cafe, located at White Plains Beach, offers sandwiches and pupus for hungry beach-goers.

Open from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. on

Fridays and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays, the cafe provides a relaxed atmosphere with drink specials and Friday night karaoke.

“For a long time we were just a snack bar that was a hole in the side of the wall,” said Kim O’Lague, manager of the cafe.

“We didn’t have the bar or entertainment. Once we got the funds to renovate, we were open more hours during the week,” she said.

Other facilities still available at Barbers Point also include a golf course, horse stables, the Kona Breeze swimming pool and the Power Point fitness center that includes a weight-lifting room, a cardiovascular room, aerobics classes and a sauna.

Jolly Gamboa, marketing assistant for Navy Region Hawaii’s Moral, Welfare and Recreation, encourages military personnel to use the facilities that are available at Barbers Point.

“If there is not enough participation of military personnel with the services that are offered there, some are in danger of closing down,” said Gamboa.

“Now is the time to start taking advantage of Barbers Point before it is too late,” she said.



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